

STATE SENATOR • DEBORAH CHERRY • 26TH DISTRICT

Cherry Press Release



P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-1636 • Fax: 517-373-1453
E-mail: sendcherry@senate.michigan.gov • www.senate.michigan.gov/dem/SD26

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CONTACT: Sen. Deb Cherry (D-Burton)
(517) 373-1636

CHERRY INTRODUCES HEALTH CARE PATIENT PROTECTION LEGISLATION

(LANSING)—State Senator Deb Cherry (D-Burton) introduced legislation this week that will prohibit health facilities that receive state funds from using these funds to interfere with or discourage unionization. Cherry and other Senate and House Democrats announced the “Patient Protection Act” at a press conference in Lansing today.

“Nurses are on the frontlines every day providing high quality health care in hospitals all around the state,” said Cherry. “They need to be assured that their employers are providing them with quality care as well.”

Under Senator Cherry’s bill, health facilities are prohibited from using state funds for purposes of discouraging union activity by its employees. This would include hiring a person or agency to advise on ways to deter unionization; impeding a labor organization from fulfilling its representation responsibilities; or, holding meetings to influence employees to refrain from unionizing.

“Quality health care is a community concern,” said Cherry. “We need to offer our nursing professionals a safe and open work environment so they can focus on what they do best – providing exceptional health care to every patient.”

Senator Cherry’s bill is part of a three-bill package of legislation sponsored by Senate and House Democrats.

Senator Cherry is a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and is Minority Vice Chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education, and the subcommittee on Community Health.

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